

Grace Church Visitor

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EARTH'S HAPPY DAY

REV. NEVIN E. SCHAAF

Earth's Happy Day is here! Long has the power of winter held in firm grasp the forces of nature. The fields have been bleak and sere. The boughs and the branches have been barren. The beauty of the flowers and the songs of birds have been withheld. Life has lain dormant, restrained, awaiting the call to come forth again in new vigor and freshness. And now the call has sounded. The ever-rolling year has heralded the advent of Spring and once again all nature in obedient response laughs, and sings, and rejoices. The buds swell on the trees. Tenderly the frail flowers emerge from the clod. Mildly the breezes blow. And cheerily the melodies of happy birds fill the warm, sweet air. And life, this life of ours, feels new strength in its pulse and new courage in its heart. Earth's Happy Day is here again!

And what is the meaning of this Happy Day? Whence comes this sweetness of joy which today is ours? Has this renewing of the life of nature, singly and alone, brought us this happiness? It is in the asking of such questions as these that we discover the secret of Earth's Happy Day. For

Earth's Happy Day is Easter. Earth's Happy Day is the day of new life, not alone in the world round about us, but chiefly the day which is the promise and the token of the eternal blossoming forth of the mortal into the everlasting. Nature and Spring furnish the picture; Easter gives the fact. The same power which brings the life of Spring, fresh, blooming, joyous, out of the death and darkness of Winter, also on this Earth's Happy Day brought the brightness and the glory of the resurrected Christ from out the somber confines of the tomb. And herein lies the secret of our joy and the fullness of our happiness. The Lord Christ which was dead is arisen, and in His rising has brought light and immortality to life. The gloom is dispelled, darkness has vanished, the veil is rent in twain. In the power of His resurrection we see clearly the new life and the new power and the new joy, which is ours through Him. The consciousness of the reality of this new life and new power constitutes Earth's Happy Day.

Earth's Happy Day — Easter — is here!

THE VISITOR WISHES FOR ALL A
MOST JOYOUS EASTER

EASTER SUNDAY

9:30 A. M.—Grace Reformed Greater Bible School.

10:45 A. M.—Easter Communion Service (communion at this service only).

4:00 P. M.—Easter Cantata by Double Quartet.

You cannot afford to miss any of these services.

Come, rejoice with us in the Easter Message. Visitors and strangers always welcome.

At the vesper service the double quartet will sing Marks' beautiful cantata, "Victory Divine."

The cantata contains many beautiful choruses and solos, and is dramatic in the extreme.

THE EASTER SEASON

All the members and friends of Grace Church are urged to note the announcement of the following services for the Easter season:

During Passion Week services each evening excepting Monday and Saturday. On Tuesday and Wednesday nights in charge of the pastor. On Thursday and Friday nights in charge of Rev. Dr. C. M. Schaaf, of Spencerville, Ohio. 7:30 is the hour. All come.

* * *

Those wishing to contribute money for floral decorations for Easter Sunday will please give it to Mrs. Ernest Baumgartner, chairman of the Easter decorations committee.

CHURCH BREVITIES

Mrs. Ray Deahl and son Richard are visiting relatives in Lafayette, Ind.

Mrs. J. Bitner and Miss Lulu Bitner spent a day recently in Lima, O., visiting friends.

Miss Adah Gumper spent a few days in Crawfordsville and Indianapolis visiting friends.

Mr. Freeman Chaussee, of the Agen-da Class, has returned from a three-month stay in Florida.

"200 DAY" A SUCCESS

March 11th was a day to remember. We had planned for some time to have a banner day in Sunday School, placing our mark at 200. When the day arrived it was alternately pouring rain and bright sunlight. It looked as though our attendance record was doomed. However, that wonderful motto, "I will," was in evidence and when the count was made it was found that just exactly 201 were present. Had the smaller children been able to attend the attendance would easily have reached 250 and we will try for this mark next time.

(Editor's Note—The attendance again reached 200 on March 25th, although no special efforts to that end had been made).

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

By the time this issue of The Visitor is out the "Increase Campaign" which has been on for six months will have ended, as Sunday, April 1, is the last day. We will be able to give all the figures next month. That the campaign has been a decided success all will agree as it has added very materially to the interest as well as increased the attendance; in fact, it has shown us what we can do.

* * *

What about Easter? It seems to us that we should have a record-breaking attendance for Easter. Everyone connected with the church should make a special effort to get to all the services of the day. Start with the Sunday School at 9:30 a. m.

* * *

The "party" given by the Cradle Roll, Primary and Junior departments on Saturday afternoon, March 3, in honor of Miss Doermer's birthday was greatly enjoyed by about seventy who attended.

* * *

A number of our classes are planning to give entertainments and social affairs after Easter, and we trust our people will show their usual loyalty by attending and getting their friends to attend.

ATTENTION LADIES

April 26—Social afternoon at home of Mrs. Henry Kronmiller, 2812 South Barr Street. Assisting hostesses are Mrs. Campbell (chairman), Mesdames Jack Straub, Dan Mullen, James Smith, Ed Siebold, Sam Frederick, Walters, Keller and Potts.

* * *

Save the date—May 3d.

For what?—Church Supper.

Invite all your friends to come.

Managers—Mrs. Wertman (chairman), Mrs. Hessert, Mrs. Kessler, Mrs. C. H. Gumpfer.

Assistants—Mesdames John Ruch, Carl Kessler, Christian Waldo, Charles Masel, S. Schrack, Viola Kanning, Jas. Quinn, Martha Wisong, Rose Kline, David Schlatter, W. Botteran, Carrie Eckart, Celia Horstman, Edw. Hessert, Charles Robinson, George Gemmer, Otto Nyffler, Henry Eberwine, Hannah Bentz, George Trautman, George Wagner and the Misses Dr. Bertha Goba, Rose Goba, Carrie Quickley, Ruth Gumpfer, Adah Gumpfer, Evelyn and Mildred Wertman, Sofa Reiter, Edith Bentz and Esther Kessler.

Seven quilts and twenty aprons made since Jan. 1st is the report of the Sewing Committee. Who says Grace Church ladies are idle?

The Ladies' Social Tea was held at the home of Mrs. Kanning on Erie Street Thursday afternoon, March 22. About fifty ladies were present and enjoyed a pleasant time. Every lady of the church is welcome to these social affairs. Come and join us. They are held once each month.

You should note the enthusiasm at the social afternoon meetings of the ladies of our church. The object of these meetings is to promote a feeling of good friendship among the ladies. Every lady is welcome. There are sixty to seventy ladies at every meeting, and these affairs have all proved to be very enjoyable.

The officers of the Woman's Missionary Society are very grateful for the splendid way in which every member supported the Public Thanks Offering Service. The gifts received through the Mite Boxes amounted to \$52.00.

The Primary Department of the Sunday School was represented by Margaret and Dean Metzner, bringing their gift of \$12.00.

Miss Hazel Gooley announced a \$15.00 gift from the Mary B. Hoy Circle, Missionary Auxiliary.

The grand total of \$79.00 will be divided between Home and Foreign Missions.

All thanks and honor due our Heavenly Father, who made these gifts possible.

* * *

The newly elected officers of the W. M. S. are as follows:

President—Miss Anna Doerner.

Vice-President—Mrs. Henry Dinger.

Corresponding Sec'y—Mrs. Frank Leikauf.

Rec. Sec'y—Mrs. Charles Gumpfer.

Treasurer—Mrs. Edward Heyman.

Meetings are held third Thursday of every month. April meeting on the 19th at the home of Mrs. John Schneider. Mrs. Gooley will lead the devotion.

* * *

All-day sewing on April 5th.

At 2:30 o'clock monthly meeting of Doremus Guild. Every lady member of Grace Church ought to attend this meeting. A cordial welcome to all.

* * *

On April 7, at the Gas Office (Calhoun Street), the Doremus Guild will hold a Bake Sale; also Aprons and Colored Eggs will be sold.

If you have not already been solicited please report to Mrs. J. R. Bitner (telephone 2718 red). We are asking for donations of Bread, Cake, Pies, Cookies, Doughnuts, Coffee Cake, Pickles, Jelly, Baked Beans and anything else good to eat. If you can't deliver your baked goods to the Gas Office telephone No. 545 red and they will be called for.

GRACE CHURCH VISITOR

Published monthly by the Young Men's Agenda Class.

George M. Shiffer.....Editor-in-Chief
E. W. Baumgartner.....Business Manager
Subscription price, 25 cents a year.

LET'S CROWD THE BALCONY!

All departments of Grace Church are booming. Never before has there been more zeal and enthusiasm! The attendance at all services is constantly growing! Easter Sunday has always been regarded as the one Sunday when everyone goes to church. The attendance at Grace Church on Easter has generally been good; but this year it is going to break all records. Large crowds and inspiring services will mark the day. But let us not be content with merely enjoying the fruits of our recent growth! Let us rather redouble our efforts and see to it that not only are all records broken, but that **everybody** turns out, and let us have our church building crowded to the doors. We have a large Sunday School room adjoining the big room. Request the caretaker to open it. And we have a balcony. Let's crowd the balcony!

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE FLAG?

The Men's Bible Class, of which Mr. Sessler is teacher, has shown its patriotism by giving "Old Glory" a conspicuous place in the front of the church auditorium. In these stirring times well is it that churches should prove their loyalty. We believe that our free America stands today as the one land that must take the lead in bringing all men to Christ, in abhorring evil and clinging to that which is good. We as Christian people cannot do else but condemn the acts of that nation which seeks to further its own selfish ends by a ruthless disregard of the laws of humanity. Thus, when our country's president and those in authority with him seek to uphold the principles of right

and freedom—principles wholly in accord with Christianity's teachings—who but the people of Christ's church should be at the forefront of those who support them. We believe in our country, and all that the flag of our country stands for, and it is, therefore, fitting that "Old Glory" should have an honored place in the church of our country.

Let us follow the example of the Men's Bible Class and be patriotic.

LOOK HERE!

Below is a copy of the Sunday School Chart for March 25. Study it carefully. It means something.

Enrollment	212
Attendance today	200
Offering today	\$8.79
Attendance last Sunday	177
Offering last Sunday	\$6.64
Attendance a year ago ...	130
Offering a year ago	\$4.78

AGENDA CORNER

The class was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Shiffer Friday, March 16, at which time they held their regular monthly business meeting. A great deal of interest was taken in the plan for the old folks' service to be held Sunday morning, April 22, when a space will be cleared in the front part of the church and chairs provided for the aged. They will be called for and taken home in automobiles. To make sure no one will be slighted, give the pastor names and addresses of anyone you know of who should be brought to this service.

Mr. Ed Close was the main attraction of the evening, giving an optimistic version of his trip to Florida. He was present, however, for the purpose of getting things started for the Agenda Minstrel Show to be given Thursday, May 10, of which he has kindly consented to take charge.

Found—A new pet, a Ford. See Mr. Baumgartner.

PROGREDA ECHOES

The Easter praises may falter,
 And die with the Easter day;
 The blossoms that brightened the altar
 In sweetness may fade away;
 But after the silence and fading,
 There lingers untold and unpriced,
 Above all changing and shading,
 The love of the living Christ.

As we again approach the beautiful Easter season and again "The time of the singing of birds is come," with the glad awakening of all nature, we cannot help but be filled with new life and vigor, new hopes and new inspirations, and a desire to give to the world the best that is in us to show our love for Him who so loved us. Just as each little bird shows its appreciation of the Father's watchful care when it chirps out its happy song and thus contributes its little mite toward cheering a gloomy world, so let us radiate our joy for the risen Lord and so live that when that day shall come, He may fold us to His breast and say "Thy love to Me was wonderful."

We rejoice with our Secretary, Miss Margaret Sorgen, over her seeming complete recovery from her recent illness and are glad to have her with us again.

Much credit is due our "Larkin Committee," which is busily engaged in preparing our second order for Larkin toilet articles whereby we hope to enrich our treasury, which recently became somewhat depleted by our contribution to the Endowment Fund, the Sunday School debt, the Church Visitor, the Easter flower fund, etc.

Equal credit is due our Sick Committee, which has been very punctual in providing flowers and blossoming plants to the sick, not only of our class, but the Church and Sunday School as well, and may we hope that in this humble way we have been the means of bringing in a ray of sunshine to an otherwise darkened heart!

Our March business meeting was held at the home of Misses Hazel and Loretta Gooley on Masterson Avenue. Seventeen young women were present and hardly had the interesting business session adjourned when a jolly St. Patrick's party was in full sway. The home was prettily decorated in St. Patrick's colors (and incidentally the Progreda class colors) and a number of amusing contests in keeping with the day had been prepared by the hostesses, which provided much laughter and merriment. Dainty St. Patrick souvenirs accompanied the delicious refreshments and each guest departed according to the hostesses loud praises as entertainers.

THE HEIDELBERG CLASS

Our class and their teacher, Mrs. Frank More, certainly did all they could do to make 200 day the success it was. Though one of the most recently organized classes in the Sunday School there were 21 present. Watch us grow!

The Heidelberg Class will hold its next business meeting at the home of Mrs. I. D. Clippinger, 1326 Spy Run Avenue.

Mrs. Kessler, who has been on the sick list for quite a while, is very much improved.

We are glad to have Mrs. Disler with us again. Mrs. Quinn is also able to be with us again. Mrs. Shoda is ill with tonsilitis.

The Heidelberg Class will give an entertainment on Thursday, April 19, at 8:00 p. m.

"Sewing for the Heathen."

Characters:

Mrs. Judd, hostess.....Mrs. Knott
 Meely, German maid.....Mrs. Metzner
 Mrs. Mecker, peace-maker..Mrs. Disler
 Luella, an old maid....Mrs. Clippinger
 Deaf Grandma Gibbs.....Mrs. Masel
 Mrs. Powers, wealthy visitor.....
Mrs. Brewer
 Mrs. Chesty, Pres. of Aid Society....
Mrs. Quinn
 Mrs. Strong, suffragette...Mrs. Crumm
 Mrs. Day, a bride.....Mrs. Bowman

THE BLUEBIRD GIRLS

As another group of loyal little Pilgrims, comprising one of the trio most recently formed classes of our Sunday School, we make our bow to the readers of Grace Church Visitor. True to the significance of the name we have chosen, though young in years and small of stature, we have a mighty aim before us, namely, to scatter bits of happiness and "make the world brighter with a smile." Though heavy may hang the clouds, still "Jesus bids us shine," so won't you join us in the glad game and let us be your Bluebirds?

We are: Violet Fischer, Margaret Metzner, Ivy Reilley, Selma Kaecck, Hazel Zeis, Helen Payne, Gladys Haynes, Jeanette Botteron, Eleanora Weller, Ruth More (teacher).

THE TRUE-BLUE CORNER

The March class meeting was held at the home of Agnes Riley.

We are pleased to announce that on "200 Sunday" and on every Sunday since then we have had 99 per cent of our members present.

No doubt everyone has heard of our entertainment, "Mrs. Plodding's Nieces," to be given April 12. Everyone should come, as this is our first attempt to give anything of this kind.

The Miyagi Class was organized on Saturday afternoon, March 10. The following officers were elected:

President—Martha More.

Vice-President—Florence Bell.

Secretary—Mable Wickert.

Treasurer—Hazel Guebard.

We have our money for the endowment fund, this being raised by the making up of a Larkin order.

* * *

Members of two Sunday School classes are now selling tickets for entertainments to be given in April. The buying of a ticket will help in two ways: You will encourage and help the classes and will help the church, for everything done for these classes helps the whole church.

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C. E. NOTES

Topics for April and leaders are as follows:

April 1.—The quiet ways of God's Providence (1 Kings 19:1-13). (Consecration meeting). Prayer Meeting Committee.

April 8.—The Significance of Easter (1 Cor. 15:50-58). Earl Dinger.

April 15.—The Lord's day the best day (Neh. 13:15-22). Vera Sessler.

April 22.—How lying undermines the character (Lev. 19:11-12; Prov. 6:16-19). Robert Bitner.

April 29.—Missionary Opportunities in Latin America (Isa 60:1-5). Hazel Gooley.

* * *

The Junior C. E. meetings are increasing in interest. The meetings are held every Sunday at 2:45 o'clock. Being preceded by a fifteen-minute song service, ample time is given for the ones living a long distance from the church to be present for the study. Parents, remember that you are invited to these services. Come and see the work we are doing.

* * *

The monthly business meeting of the Men's Bible Class has been changed to the third Tuesday of the month instead of the second. The Christian Endeavor Society certainly appreciates this action on the part of the men.

NOTICE TO YOUNG MEN!

All young men desiring to know how to choose a wife, be sure to see "Mrs. Plodding's Nieces" on April 12. The True Blue Class will enact it instead of "The Deestrick Skule," as at first intended.

The Mary B. Hoy Missionary Auxiliary held its meeting on March 5th at the home of Mrs. Leikauf on Washington Boulevard East. Miss Hazel Gooley had charge of the meeting. The Mission Study Class will gladly welcome any of the young ladies in the church to their meetings, which are held the first Monday of each month.

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